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AUGUST 1931

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MARKET JOURNAL
Devoted to the Interests
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ASBESTOS AND MAGNESIA INDUSTRIES

A. S. ROSSITER

EDITOR

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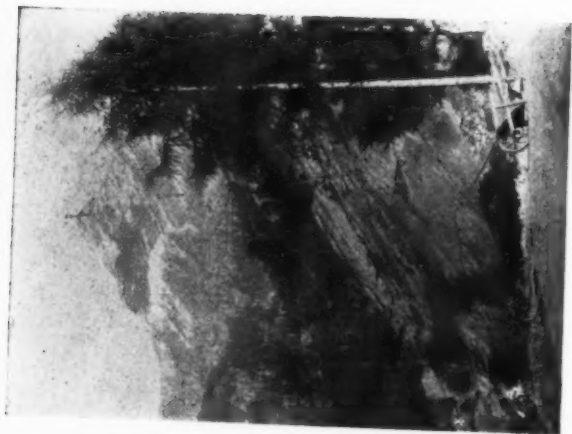
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The Asbestos Fields at Valmalenco. The picture at the left shows the mine itself with mountains towering behind it. At the right note the height of the Asbestos fields above the village.

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ASBESTOS

Italy—The Cradle of the Asbestos Industry

While Italy, so far as Crude Asbestos is concerned, is not in present days as important as several other asbestos producing countries, it at one time played a most important part—in fact we may say the solo part—in the production and early development of Asbestos.

Indeed the earliest use of Asbestos known to the world was by the Romans about 2000 years ago, as nearly as it can be figured. They used it for shrouds, wrapping the bodies of their dead in it for cremation, and thus keeping the ashes separate from the wood ashes of the pyre. A specimen of this ancient cremation cloth is in the Library of the Vatican in Rome. It was found perfectly intact with some ashes in a Roman sarcophagus in the Via Praenestina in 1702, and was deposited in the Library by the order of Clement the Eleventh. The Romans also used asbestos for lampwicks; both Plutarch and Strabo record this use and call the lamps "perpetual" because the wicks appeared never to wear out.

Very little, if any, progress was made in the development of the Asbestos Industry from these ancient times up until the eighteenth century. Scattered references to asbestos articles, invariably as curiosities are found thruout history, but apparently no real effort was made to use it commercially until the discovery of the Ural deposits (Russia) about 1710, and then manufacture was apparently confined to Russia and to articles of clothing, gloves, bags, etc.

When asbestos was finally sponsored by Industry, Italy again came into the limelight; in fact for many years the Italian fibre was the only kind recognized as suitable for commercial purposes. Later, however, it was found that Canadian fibre could be more easily worked on the spinning and weaving machines then in use, and this caused a halt in the exploitation of the deposits in the Alps.

Traces of amianthus (asbestos) can be found all over

ASBESTOS

the chain of the Alps, and become more marked in the zone surrounding Turin. About 1865 it was attempted to use this fibre for the production of fireproof paper for the printing of banknotes and for documents of the pontifical archives.

In 1875 small factories existed in Turin, where the first rope of asbestos for stuffing boxes in steam driven machines, was spun and twisted by hand. The fibre used was taken from the Mines of Val d'Aosta. From that date, the mining of Italian asbestos, with the cooperation of English capital, was localized at three points in Italy.

First. Valle di Susa, about 60 kilometers (about 37 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles) from Turin. The principal mines here are situated at about 2500 to 2700 meters (8200 to 8860 ft.) above the sea level. The asbestos (called floss) was carried on men's shoulders to the village below, about 1300 meters (4265 ft.) above the sea level, then to the plains by means of carriages. Because of its properties the asbestos from these mines is especially adapted for filters for chemical products and for the bundles of asbestos in gas stoves.

Second. Valle d'Aosta, between Ivrea and Chatillon, about 75 kilometers (46 miles) from Turin. Several layers of asbestos have been under operation here since 1865, located at about 1600 meters (5249 ft.) above the sea level, from where the asbestos is carried to the village by sleighs or mules. The asbestos found in this locality is long, fibrous and most resistant, but difficult to separate in the elementary fibres and therefore little fit for weaving. Its production is now limited, almost all mines having been inactive since 1905.

The third location of asbestos mines in Italy is at Valtellina. These mines, which are located in the Retiche Alps, about 15 kilometers (3 miles) from the city of Sondrio, and at about 2000 to 2500 meters (6500 to 8200 ft.) above the sea level, are very rich in asbestos and quite actively operated. For the last few years the material has been transported to the valley by means of aerial cableway. Not far from these deposits in the valley of Poschiavo, on the way to the Bernina Pass, is found a deposit of asbestos which was worked by a

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Swiss Company, especially during the World War but this company discontinued operations in 1925.

These mines are the ones referred to in our June 1929 number, which were originally pioneered by John Fornonzini and Anthony Masa, who risked their lives in prospecting for the asbestos found high up in the mountains.

A story is told of a certain noblewoman of Valtellina, Candida Medina Coeli Lena Perpentì di Cordona Val Chiavenna, who, after having proved in vain methods suggested by Kirche, Ciampini and Mahudel, succeeded in having asbestos from Valmalenco worked by weavers and paper manufacturers of Lake Como. The studies and experiments made by this famous woman brought upon her the applause of science and other honors from Prince Eugene of Beauharnais, who was then Viceroy of Italy. The Prince, so the story goes, presented this lady with a pearl necklace in return for a pair of asbestos gloves. This occurred, as nearly as we are able to learn, about 1806.

She is said to have developed the manufacturing of the mineral fibre to a point where not only thread, stitch-work, tissue and paper were made but the thread was used to stitch the finest embroideries. Later some of her thread was used to make asbestos suits for firemen.

In 1878, various Italian exporters presented asbestos at the Universal Exposition of Paris and succeeded in bringing the mineral to the attention of the technical and industrial world of the leading countries. From that time until 1885, the asbestos deposits of the Alps were the subject of the most extensive researches as well as exploitation on the part of foreign organizations.

There were three Italians, viz: Signor Albonico of Sandrio, Canon del Corona (a Florentine cleric) and the Marquis di Baviera, who early succeeded in making some small specimens of asbestos cloth and paper, and endeavored to interest the Italian Government in these articles, particularly in the manufacture of asbestos paper for bank notes. They failed, but as they had obtained concessional rights from various communal author-

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ities in the Valtellina, Val d'Aosta, and Val Susa districts, to explore and excavate the raw material, they obtained a considerable quantity, most of which was of fine quality and great tensile strength. Furse Brothers, bankers of Rome, and others, became interested in these excavations and a company was subsequently formed in Glasgow in 1871, under the name of the Patent Asbestos Manufacture Company Limited. Therefore, while the company was organized in Scotland, it was really fathered by Italians.

During the eighteen sixties, a second company had been formed under the name of Italo-English Pure Asbestos Company, Limited, with factory at Turin. This company succeeded in spinning, principally by hand, a yarn from Italian fibre, completely freed from gritty particles or other impurities (which the Glasgow Company had not been able to do) and twisted it into a rope packing without any covering of cotton such as was originally used by the Glasgow Company. This company also succeeded in producing an exceptionally fine quality of millboard which was made at Tivoli, near Rome, for cylinder cover and other joints.

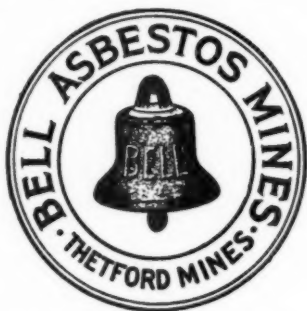
Keen competition then set in between the original group of mining concession-hunters in Italy, headed by Furse Brothers, the Glasgow Company and the Italo-English Company, for the control of supplies of the raw material, for at that time the Italian product was the only recognized standard asbestos. This led, in 1879, to the amalgamation of the three companies under the name of United Asbestos Company, Limited, and the publication of the prospectus of the United Asbestos Company attracted so much attention, to the many possible applications of asbestos in the industrial world, that the capital was oversubscribed.

About this time deposits of asbestos were discovered in Canada, but the material was so very different from the Italian fibre that it was looked upon with very little favor. The United Asbestos Company had a chance to acquire a third or fourth share in the Thetford deposits for a comparatively small cash payment, but having a

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profound belief in the superiority of the Italian fibre, and being deeply committed by having acquired control of all the known deposits in Italy, they were unable to take advantage of the Canadian opportunity—an opportunity which, as it turned out, would have been to their very great advantage.

Contrary to normal crystalline formation, which renders easy the work of disintegration, a large part of the Italian asbestos (known as slip fibre) when in the raw state is cohered by an adhesive material of the nature of tale, which, covering the mass of the fibrous material renders disintegration and unraveling difficult. Due to these physical conditions this type of Italian asbestos was always considered unadapted to the manufacture of textile products and consequently was considered of little value. Recently, however, an Italian firm (Brunetti & Pampuro of Milan)¹ who for a number of years has been engaged in extracting and dealing in Italian asbestos, has devoted much attention to the solution of this problem, and finally, with the help of its technical staff, is able to obtain perfect disintegration of the slip fibre asbestos in such manner that the product prepared by its method is found to be most satisfactory for weaving.

Near Balangero, about 20 kilometers north of Turin, there is a vein of asbestos which has been known for a long time. In 1928 a company, Societa Cave Amianto di San Vittore, was organized, and this firm uses modern, mechanical means in mining the asbestos.

At the present time Italy produces from 3,000 to 5,500 tons of Asbestos fibre a year, and also has several important manufacturing plants, among which is Societe Eternit Pietra Artificiale at Genoa, which manufactures asbestos cement products and is especially noted for the invention and manufacture of asbestos cement pipes. These pipes which are gradually becoming a very important part of asbestos cement manufacture thruout the world were first invented, developed and used in Italy. Others are Societa Italo Russa Per L'Amianto in Leu-

¹ The name of this firm has been changed recently to Soc. An Miniere Amianto Italiano.

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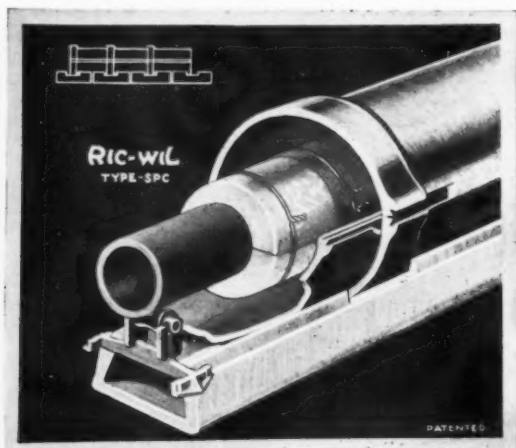
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mann (Turin), asbestos textiles; Stabilimenti Amianto E. Gomma Elastica, formerly Bender & Martiny in Nole Canavese, manufacturers of asbestos and rubber goods; Societa Anonima Italiana Capamianto in Tesoriera (Turin), a branch of the Cape Asbestos Company Limited of London, and the Spalato Portland Cement Co., Ltd., Trieste, Italy, makers of Asbestos Cement Products.

NOTE: This is the seventh article in the series "The History of Asbestos."

Little Lessons in Selling

HOW THE OTHER FELLOW DOES IT

BY JOHN T. BARTLETT

Set yourself up with outstanding other salesmen. Maybe there are several in your own organization. They turn in from day to day a larger sales volume than you do.

The salesman who surpasses you may be in another organization. Wherever he is, don't miss the opportunity to improve your own "form" by studying him.

A salesman on a certain specialty seems to have all the "makings" of a first-class man. He turned in orders—but in volume just short of what was satisfactory.

His manager arranged for him to spend two days with the star salesman of the organization.

Before the first day was over, the "student" remarked to his companion, "I've got it! You quickly qualify the prospect or you won't spend time with him. I have been taking time, on policy, to sell the prospect on the basic idea. If I could use your plan, I believe I'd double my sales."

He did.

Of course, studying the other fellow's methods, be sure your attitude is one of desire to learn ways for your personal improvement. Altogether few salesmen in the position are "set" to discover that their ways are better than the other fellow's—even if the other fellow does put it all over them in sales.

Don't be afraid to admit the superiority of the other fellow—then study him, adopt his superior methods.

The Visibestone Sound Screen

(An Entirely New Asbestos Product)

For many years there was little improvement in motion picture screens beyond the early stages of stretching a white sheet. Of recent years, the introduction of problems of the talking picture has caused definite engineering consideration to be given to the screen. The ordinary flat oilcloth screen had to be punched full of holes to permit passage of sufficient sound. This overcame the immediate obstacle, but still left a flat and lifeless picture, and the holes were objectionable, resulting in a picture, when viewed closely, that was blurred, indistinct and, in closeup, made the performers appear to have smallpox.

Believing that all that was required of a screen was to reflect light, a number of people had experimented with screens having metallized surfaces or small reflecting heads. Such screens do reflect more light directly back at the point from which it is projected, but to do so they rob light from the angles at which the audience will view the picture. As a consequence, the picture is dull and muddy when viewed from the side angles and coarse and garish when viewed from directly in front. Eye-strain is frequently caused by screens having surfaces of this nature, which are technically called "specular". Scientific measurements show a tremendous variation in the light reflected from various angles.

With the advent of sound, the purpose of a motion picture screen became twofold. It must not only catch and reflect the light thrown upon it from the projector, but it must not interfere with the free passage of sound from the horns or loud speakers located behind the screen.

Just recently, one of the greatest investigators in the field of applied optics, a scientist in charge of development of the only practical two-way television system, has designed a screen which permits relief picture projection. To secure the full benefits of this screen, however, it would be necessary to utilize a special projector which is commercially impractical. The screen consists of a series of rod-like filaments, the shape and angles of each rod

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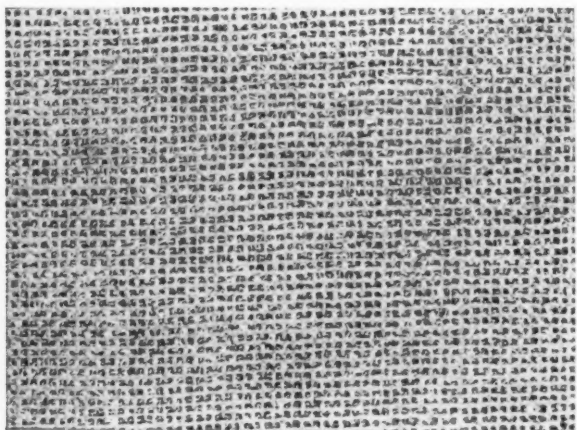
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being based upon complicated mathematical formulae.

There has recently been discovered a means of forming asbestos into rod-like threads which are woven together to produce a motion picture screen, and this screen can be used with any standard projector. This discovery was made by the Keasbey & Mattison Company, of Ambler, Pa. While it is not claimed that complete stereoscopic vision is thus obtained, it is immediately obvious upon seeing a picture projected on this screen that a tremendous depth of picture is visible. There are no harsh glistening reflections, there are no holes to destroy the picture, but from each of these asbestos fibre rods the light is reflected brightly and smoothly, resulting in a perfection of contrasts and shading in the picture not obtainable upon a smooth surface of sheet, nor from one containing crystals or reflecting particles.



Showing texture of K. & M. Screen

One of the serious features for most houses is the large number of seats at the side and near the front of the house, in which the picture is distorted or lacking in sufficient light to be easily seen. This new screen entirely

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August 1931

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overcomes this objection because of the rod-like structure, since light is reflected from the round surface of these rods into the remote angles of the theatre. Comparing a picture on this screen with a flat screen is like comparing the sight of two eyes with that of one, or comparing a photograph with its newspaper reproduction.

The scientific design of the ideal theoretical screen for relief picture projection depends upon the critical relationship between the shape of the rods and the refractive index of the material. Here again nature has provided ideal material for this purpose in asbestos. Each of these asbestos threads consists of a multitude of tiny, glass-like fibres, resulting in a soft and even reflection of the light. Combined with these properties, a special surfacing material is employed which increases the normal light reflection value. As a result, scientific tests show a uniformly high light reflection from this screen at all angles at which it is possible to be viewed in a motion picture theatre. While such measurements are of value, they do not indicate the full degree of improvement gained by this rodlike construction in eliminating the distortion and giving a brilliant picture even at the extreme sides of the theatres.

"Visibestone" is the trade name adopted by Keasbey & Mattison Company for this new screen. It is, of course, excellent for sound transmission and has been approved by Electrical Research Products, Inc., for use with talking picture equipment. Besides this approval an exhaustive series of tests was conducted to insure that this screen would represent the maximum of sound transmission. The heavy bass notes of the orchestra come thru undiminished by the screen; while at the same time the highest notes of the flute and the piccolo and the overtones which lend the color and brilliance to voice and music, are unchanged. Many screens not scientifically designed for the passage of sound will only let thru certain notes and hold back others, which results in unpleasant music or muffled, hollow voices. All this is entirely eliminated in this new screen.

The fireproof quality of this screen is also a very great advantage. In an effort to improve light reflection

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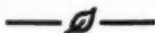
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tion values from the oilcloth type of screen, chemicals were generally used which were not unlike those employed in the manufacture of Nitro-Glycerin and TNT, the most powerful and deadly explosives known to mankind. A tiny flame or a spark could easily ignite one of these screens, causing it to burn with an intense chemical flame and the giving off of noxious and poisonous gases. Such screens were in use in many theatres until, from bitter experience, the terrible hazard to the life and safety of all those in the theatre was realized. In an effort to overcome this feature other chemicals were added which prevent the screen from bursting into flame. Screens treated in this manner are called flameproof, or non-inflammable; and while better than the pyroxylin screen still constitute a hazard to all concerned, because in the presence of heat or flame, gases more noxious and fear-inspiring than before, accompanied by smoke, would pour from these screens. An odor of that sort spreading thru the theatre will cause the most violent of panics.

But asbestos is the only truly fireproof material known to modern industry and utilized for protection from heat and fire in all modern manufacture. The same asbestos which for years has been used in the protective curtains in great theatres, is now available in this motion picture screen. It remains unchanged by the application of heat or fire, even from the most intense slow-course flames, and therefore stands as a barrier between the backstage fire and the audience.

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Left to right: Matthew Balich, President; Wm. N. Ennis, Vice President; Peter J. Balich, Secretary.
THE MATTHEW BALICH CORPORATION



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The Matthew Balich Corporation

(A Brief Biographical History)

The Matthew Balich Corporation adds one more to the many stories told of American opportunity.

On August 29th, 1894, there was born in Dalmaacia, Jugoslavia, a boy whom we know today as Matthew Balich.

Fourteen years later, in 1908, he migrated to the United States and in 1910 became an apprentice asbestos worker and insulator in New York City. He was employed by various firms in the Big Town until he became a full-fledged asbestos insulating mechanic in 1914 and worked in this capacity until 1919.

Then he decided to form a business of his own. He called it the Matthew Balich Company; naturally, it functioned as an asbestos insulation contracting firm. The business at the beginning was a very modest one, the volume for the first year being about \$25,000.

During the latter part of 1929 the company was incorporated and its name became the Matthew Balich Corporation. Thruout its twelve years of existence, it has enjoyed an enviable reputation in the asbestos industry for its integrity and financial responsibility, and its future is built on that platform. The business has steadily increased until it has grown to a present volume of from \$300,000 to \$400,000.

The photograph at the left of the opposite page, will show the present home of the Matthew Balich Corporation. The first two floors are used as a warehouse for the storing of insulation materials of every description, while the top floor contains the executive and sales offices.

In June of this year the Corporation added to its executive personnel William N. Ennis, as Vice President, and at the same time increased its sales force. Mr. Ennis was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., on November 23rd, 1890. After leaving school he was employed, in 1907, by the H. W. Johns-Manville Company in their Brooklyn factory, where he occupied various positions until September 1909 when he was transferred to the Contract Department in the New York Office.

In December 1921 he left the company to organize the
August 1931

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Asbestos Construction Company, resigning therefrom in 1927 to become Secretary and Treasurer of the Asbestos Board of Trade of New York, holding this position until the organization was disbanded in 1930. In the summer of 1930 he organized the Asbestos Survey Bureau, Inc., this being dissolved in 1931 when he became Vice President of the Matthew Balich Corporation.

The photograph on page 22 will introduce you to Mr. Balich, Mr. Ennis, and Peter J. Balich, Secretary of the Corporation and they will all be glad to personally meet you any time you happen into their office.

Improved Wool Felt

The woolfelt covering recently announced by the Norristown Magnesia & Asbestos Company, as containing a universal liner, has some other features which are quite as interesting.

The most important, as well as the most interesting of these, is the "wave structure". This wave structure is said to give 30% more efficiency with 30% reduction in weight.

Another feature is the aluminum finish which not only serves as a finish for the material, but makes it moth-proof.

The manufacturers call this improved wool felt covering "Norwol." They also advertise an improved anti-sweat covering. Both types come packed in cartons.

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Comments and Criticisms on "Finished" Aircell Covering

Much interest was created among the trade by the announcement in our July number of Taft's Ideal Pipe Covering.

As is usually the case when a new product or new idea is launched, there was some criticism, and this criticism has centered chiefly around the expansion joint feature of Taft's Ideal Covering. Because of this expansion joint feature, it is necessary to ship the sections of covering with the colored jacket extending approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches beyond one end of each section, and our readers fear that this extension will get broken in transit and on the job, before being applied to the pipe.

Probably the expansion joint feature **will** require a little more care in handling, but when it comes to that, the finished jacket also requires a little extra care. The expansion joint extension, however, is not so delicate as it appears to be. The jacket, and therefore the extension as well, is made of fairly heavy asbestos paper, the finish gives it greater stability, and the paper is reinforced with a lightweight canvas, firmly attached to both covering and paper jacket.

The packing of this covering has also been carefully studied by the manufacturer, and the method adopted is very simple and effective, yet very inexpensive. A ring of heavy cardboard about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide (slightly wider than the extension itself you will notice) is inserted inside the expansion joint and this so holds it in place that it takes a very hard blow to dent or break the jacket. In fact we have made some tests along this line without any disastrous results.

Another criticism we hear frequently on "finished" pipe covering is that it takes care to apply it, else the finished job is marred by scratches, breaks and greasy or dirty streaks almost impossible to remove.

ASBESTOS

This is quite true when applied by other than regular pipe covering mechanics. Ofttimes plumbing and steam-fitting contractors who secure orders for these materials, endeavor to have it applied by their own mechanics. Plumbers are not accustomed to applying pipe covering and the result, usually, is a very unattractive job, the glossy finish being marred by streaks and scratches, the fittings being poorly made, and often the hinge in the painted jacket torn in springing back the covering to get it over the pipe.

Steamfitters and plumbers really have no business to apply pipe covering. It is not their trade and they do not have the knack needed in order to make a neat job. The pipe covering mechanic, on the other hand, used to handling paste and canvas, finds it extremely easy to make a perfect job with the finished types of coverings. And the various colors used for finish can be easily matched in any small town. If the covering does become scratched or marred it can be easily repaired.

The attractive appearance of these "finished" coverings has been stressed to the exclusion of an even more valuable feature. The efficiency of "finished", meaning painted or lacquered pipe insulation, such as produced by the Norristown Magnesia & Asbestos Company and the P. M. Taft Asbestos Company, is very much greater than that of the regular canvas covered job. The reason for this is the fact which has been proven by actual test that there is a smaller heat loss thru radiation with a polished surface than from a rough surface. This is fully explained in the article "Warm Air Furnace Insulation" in the September 1920 issue of "ASBESTOS".

Taft's Ideal Pipe Covering and Norristown's Thermolux undoubtedly show the trend of the aircell business in the future — increased efficiency combined with attractive appearance.

FOREIGN AGENCY DESIRED

For
ASBESTOS PRODUCTS OR ENGINEERING SPECIALTIES
STONE INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT COMPANY
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASBESTOS

Cheap Mill Rock

It is unusual to have a "fortunate accident", but the Asbestos Corporation, Ltd., got a lucky break at their Beaver Pit during the week of July 26th.

A large tonnage of mill rock, loosened by the recent heavy rains, slipped from the southwest face of this pit, which was not being worked at the time, and therefore caused no injury to workers.



Officials of the Asbestos Corporation say that mining operations at the face where the slide occurred, had been discontinued two years ago as operations prior to that time had undermined the wall and made it unsafe. It would have been necessary to trim the face before operations could have been resumed, and plans for taking down the upper sections of the wall had already been considered. The earth overburden had been removed preparatory to commencing this work.

This natural fall has made available a large "jam" of broken rock amounting to approximately 150,000 tons, and has made unnecessary costly drilling and blasting which



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Whitin Sales Engineers are assisting many asbestos yarn manufacturers in solving minor and major production problems. Their practical experience is yours to command, without obligation.

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ASBESTOS

would otherwise have been inevitable. Working conditions have been very considerably improved by this slide.

Wallace and Gale Company Celebrates Its Golden Anniversary

Fifty years in the Asbestos and Insulation business!

Such is the record of the Wallace & Gale Company, which was founded by Richard H. and Samuel A. Wallace in 1881, under the name of Wallace Brothers. In the early part of January 1897, Robert L. Gale, who had been employed by Wallace Brothers for a number of years, was taken into the firm and the name changed to Wallace Bros. & Company.

In September 1897 Richard H. Wallace died and the surviving partners changed the firm name to Wallace & Gale. In April 1918 Robert L. Gale died and was succeeded by his surviving partner, D. Henry Buhman, who, in June 1924, incorporated the business under the name Wallace & Gale Company. So much for the corporate growth of the firm.

From a very small place of business at 430 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Wallace & Gale Company moved to 115 S. Gay Street, where it maintains its general offices and warehouse at the present time. In addition there is a railroad siding and yards for the storage of roofing materials and other asbestos products at Oak & 24th Streets. A branch office is also maintained in Washington.

In 1925 D. Henry Buhman, the President, died, and was succeeded by his son, Henry A. Buhman, who is President and Treasurer of the company. J. Albert Taylor is Vice President and Secretary.

The concern is well established and handles a large variety of products embracing the entire magnesia and asbestos line, including Ehret's 85% Magnesia Products for which they are exclusive distributors, and in addition they have a separate and distinct department handling roofing products, and their application.

ASBESTOS

MARKET CONDITIONS

General Business.

"Despite usual summer slump, it is generally believed that business is now on the upgrade," says Forbes in one of its two line editorials.

We hope so altho there are so many discouraging factors that improvement is not noticeable to the average business man. Everybody however, except the confirmed pessimist, is looking hopefully to the fall, when summer slumps, vacation periods and other devastating features, will be over.

Asbestos. Raw Material.

In the raw asbestos field there appears to be very little real improvement. Demand for certain qualities is fair. Small lots of crudes and spinning fibres are moving; the demand for shingle fibres and paper stocks is very limited. Calls for 5-11 and shorter grades appear to be fairly strong and the curtailed production during the past few months has resulted in an inadequate supply of these qualities. Some signs of increased activity are apparent at the Canadian Mines and within the next week or so at least two mines which have been closed for some months will again be in operation.

Manufactured Asbestos Goods.

Textiles. By the time these lines appear, steel's cut in dividends will be an old story. By that time, also, there will probably be notice of more wage reductions thruout industry. It is the consensus of opinion among the Asbestos spinners that wages have been pretty well cut in all of the Asbestos factories as far back as late winter and early spring. At that time, it was considered that these wage cuts would prove a stimulant to the industry by making lower prices possible, and thus bringing the consumer into the market again.

As far as we can see, none of this has come to pass. The industry as a whole seems to be running on an even keel with the volume fairly steady from month to month at a price around 60% normal, considering an average of 1929 and 1930 as "normal". Naturally, with this decrease

ASBESTOS

ed volume, there is a tremendous tendency to slash prices in an attempt to stimulate business, and many firms have fallen for this idea. The result has been most disappointing, as it would seem the Asbestos market has absorbed about all the finished products it can stand at the present time.

Unfortunately we look forward to exceedingly unsettled conditions in the Asbestos Mining industry for the following reason: the short sales have held up very well indeed, but in order to produce shorts, spinning fibres and crudes must also be produced. The result is that the demand for shorts has been so good, comparatively, that the miners have piled up a very large stock of crudes and fibres with no demand. We do not say that a saturation point has been reached as yet, but it would appear to us that some limitation of mining will be necessary as spinners cannot take on further crude stocks at any price.

Asbestos Textiles and yarns remain deeply depressed. The heater cord business is virtually non-existent, the small factories who formerly wove Brake Linings out of yarn furnished to them by spinners have been pretty well put out of business. For the last year or so little building of theatres has been going on, consequently no demand for theatre curtains, and the Safety Clothing Industry remains exceedingly quiet. All in all it appears that the textile industry will be a long while getting back on its feet again, even after the depression is over.

Brake lining continues in demand with a ratio of about $\frac{1}{3}$ molded to $\frac{2}{3}$ woven in the replacement trade, while the equipment trade has been swinging over to molded almost entirely. Asbestos packing continues in small demand but the lower priced grades are the large sellers.

Note: The correspondent who sends these comments on the textile market deplores the fact that he must talk so pessimistically, but he believes conditions to be as stated and cannot see anything to be gained by unnecessarily rosy prophecies.

Insulation. High Pressure. Little, if any, change is observable in this division. Sales are still quite well below the range of 1930 and, unless fall demand improves very greatly, 1931 will show a total volume of trade below that of 1927, which was the low point for the past five years.

— A S B E S T O S —

Allbestos

CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF ASBESTOS TEXTILES

SPECIALIZING IN ASBESTOS
YARNS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY
FOR
PARTICULAR REQUIREMENTS



Woven Brake Lining and Allied Products
Non-Ferrous Cloth
Plain Cloth
Asbestos Tapes and Wiping Cords
Asbestos Wick and Rope
Pure Asbestos Carded Fibres



*Manufactured in Our Own Plant from
the Raw Materials*

Allbestos Corporation

21st St. and Godfrey Ave., Germantown
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

— A S B E S T O S —

Prices remain unchanged and it is unlikely that any price move will occur, owing to the substantial increase in cost of production and selling which comes with decreased output.

Low Pressure. A sudden slump is reported in the low pressure insulation end of the industry, beginning in July, and apt to continue thruout August. This is due possibly to vacation periods, little building and business depression generally. Despite this, prices are stable and firm. Prospects for fall trade, however, are promising. A considerable amount of work is being figured and will be placed in the fall months.

Paper and Millboard. The comments made on Low Pressure insulation, apply to paper and millboard as well.

Asbestos Cement Products. A slight improvement is reported in the shingle end of the business, and also in waltile. Other products, viz. corrugated and flat sheets, are running on an even level with the last several months.

Note: The above represent the several opinions of men closely in touch with the various markets. Your comments are solicited.

Blue Asbestos Position and Prospects

(By Our Prieska Correspondent)

Crocidolite (blue asbestos) owing partly to the limited area in which it is found, there being no commercial deposits outside the northwest Cape and northern Transvaal, and partly to the strong control exercised by the two principal operating companies, has suffered less from the world depression than most commodities. Even the Russian threat has affected it but slightly so far.

Production has been restricted considerably and in the Kuruman District several mines are entirely closed down, making a big difference to the trade of that little town. Around Prieska only two or three of the smaller properties so far are closed, but the larger mines are strictly rationed as to output and prices offered are somewhat reduced.

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A S B E S T O S



Africa (Rhodesia)

(Statistics published by Rhodesia Chamber of Mines).

		May 1931	
		Tons	Value
		(2000 lbs.)	
<i>Bulawayo District</i>			
Nil Desperandum (Afr. Asb. Mng. Co. Ltd.)	440.00	£ 5,500	
Pangani (Filabusi Asb. Co. Ltd.)	253.07	3,036	16 1
Shabani (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	2,096.89	26,211	3 9
<i>Victoria District</i>			
Gath's (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	163.41	2,042	12 6
King (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	150.84	1,885	10
King (from reserve stock)	262.57	3,282	3 9
Regina A (African Asb. Mng. Co. Ltd.)	42.75	534	7 6
	3,409.53	£42,492	13 7
May 1930	2,761.78	£52,940	0 0

Africa (Union of South).

(Statistics published by Dept. of Mines & Industries of U. of S. A.)

		May 1930		May 1931	
		Tons	Value	Tons	Value
		(2000 lbs.)		(2000 lbs.)	
<i>Transvaal</i>					
Amosite	235.40	£ 2,648	273.80	£ 2,725	
Chrysotile	785.00	13,896	797.00	11,152	
<i>Cape</i>					
Blue	519.29	11,674	236.13	8,476	
	1,539.69	£28,218	1,306.93	£22,353	

United States of America.

Production of Asbestos during 1930, as published on July 15th by the Department of Commerce, was 3,653 tons (2000 lbs.) of Chrysotile, valued at \$273,292. Production of Anthophyllite (amphibole) has not been published by the U. S. Department of Commerce, because of the limited number of operators producing this material, but the Department does state that there was a decrease in both quantity and value.

Production of Chrysotile in 1929 totalled 1,983 tons, valued at \$317,584.

(Continued on Page 39)

ASBESTOS



AMERICAN ASBESTOS COMPANY



Manufacturers of
Asbestos Textiles

NORRISTOWN, PA., U. S. A.

Headquarters for
**Yarns, Cloth, Tapes, Fibres, Brake
Linings and Textiles Generally**

WRITE FOR PRESENT PRICES

CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

EXPERIENCES ENCOUNTERED IN THE ACTUAL OPERATION OF THE C-1 PLAN

The "C-I" Plan adopted by the Asbestos Houses of the Northwest, has been described in previous issues. Our readers no doubt are eager to know just how this plan works out in actual practice.

The experiences of the Asbestos Bureau in gaining the co-operation of various groups have been extremely interesting, possibly more so with the steamfitters (heating contractors) than with any other one group.

Almost invariably, the first reaction of every steamfitter approached is that it was simply a means to get together and boost prices (which it was not) and to which the steamfitters did not object very much. Then when they thought a little bit further (those who thought at all) the general reaction was against the plan because they thought it would raise the figured price and give some one of their competitors, who was a little less scrupulous than they (if possible), an opportunity to do the work themselves, or to get someone outside the Bureau to figure the work and thus eliminate their chance of securing the contract.

It was necessary, therefore, to convince the steamfitter that the plan was not going to be the basis for a holdup, because if that were the case, it would not be backed by such responsible firms as were in the Bureau, or by such nationally known manufacturers as Johns-Manville. The real final crux in convincing the steamfitter was to prove to him that the plan **really would work**, and that when he had a C-I job to figure neither he nor anyone else would be able to break the specifications and cheat on the pipe covering. Once this was firmly established in his mind, he was quite happy because that was all he wanted anyhow—the assurance that his competitor would not have a lower cost on any portion of the work than he.

One particularly tough customer, whom we will call Mr. Jones, refused to listen to any of the arguments or pleas for Certified Insulation—he was going to be against it until dooms day. A week later one of the members of the Asbestos Bureau was calling on him and he was deploring the fact that he had lost a recent job to one of his competitors. The member happened to know the details of the transaction. It seemed that the job was specified for Magnesite Covering. Mr. Jones figured on Magnesite Covering, but his competitor, (who secured the order) figured on 3 ply, got by with it with the owner, and secured the job, the difference between the cost of 3 ply and the Magnesite

ASBESTOS

being enough to make the competitor low bidder.

This was pointed out to Mr. Jones, and it was also pointed out to him that had it been a C-I job he would not have lost it. At once his whole attitude changed and Mr. Jones is now one of the best boosters for the C-I Plan.

C-I has found considerable opposition from people who have just heard of the plan and thought it was a scalping scheme, but there has been really very little opposition from those who have been willing to study it and go thru the whole plan until they understand the complete workings of it. Once the program is really understood, it gets almost universal approval.

PRODUCTION STATISTICS—(Continued from Page 36)

The Chrysotile was mined in Arizona, California and Vermont.

There was a large increase in production of the mill fibre variety in Vermont, by the Vermont Asbestos Corporation, whose property is in Lamoille County, near Hyde Park. As compared with 1929, this corporation more than doubled the quantity of its sales in 1930, and the total value of the output was nearly twice that of 1929. Each producer in Arizona increased his output over 1929, but the total for this State showed a decrease because the number of operators dropped from 6 in 1929 to 3 in 1930.

BUILDING

June added \$331,879,700 to construction contract awards for the thirty-seven states east of the Rockies, bringing the sum total for the first half of the year up to \$1,808,226,800. F. W. Dodge Corporation in announcing figures for June and for the half-year period, indicates that residential building fared best among the three major construction classes in both the second quarter and the first half of the current year.

The third quarter, it is believed, will show the best quarterly comparison with the like period in 1930. A decline is anticipated but it is not expected to exceed 20%, while the first and second quarters realized losses of 24 and 37 per cent, respectively.

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Automobile production in the United States and Canada during June, totalled 256,297 vehicles, of which 249,462 were produced in the United States and 6,835 in Canada.

June 1930 production was 349,596 vehicles.

CONTRACTS EXECUTED ANYWHERE

High and Low Pressure Insulation
Brine and Ammonia Cork Insulation
STONE INDUSTRIAL EQUIP. CO.

SPRINGFIELD

MASS.

ASBESTOS

New Products

(Or Variations of Old Ones)

Samples of the articles described may be obtained by addressing the manufacturers thereof.

Thermoid Announces Improved Brake Block.

Engineers of the Thermoid Rubber Company have just announced an improved brake block which will greatly affect the cost of brake up-keep on high speed trucks and buses.



The brake lining industry has been up against the problem of developing a brake block capable of stopping high speed trucks and buses quickly and at the

same time wear long enough to be economical.

Thermoid engineers contend that heat is the most destructive factor affecting the life of brake lining. They take the stand that previous methods of overcoming heat by lowering the coefficient of friction tended to decrease the efficiency of the brakes. However, with the new Thermoid process, specially developed compounds absorb the tremendous heat yet retain the high coefficient of friction necessary for light pedal pressure to give quick, smooth stops.

The new Thermoid blocks are of the "full coverage" type, giving more braking surface than the "keeper" type, and are wire reinforced thruout the entire thickness which tends toward even wear until worn wafer-thin.

Conveyor Belting.

A conveyor belt with an asbestos cloth surface is being placed on the market by Bell's Asbestos & Engineering Supplies, Ltd., of Slough, England, and English

RUSSIAN ASBESTOS

OF

**ALL GRADES RANGING FROM
FINEST CRUDES TO SHORTS.**

**SUITABLE FOR THE MANUFACTURE
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ASBESTOS LIMITED INC.

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ASBESTOS

patent has been issued to that firm.

This is a combination of asbestos, duck and rubber, the asbestos cloth surface being particularly desirable where hot material is carried by the belts, as in the conveying of hot smalls in cement works; also in conjunction with rotary kilns. The ordinary rubber surface conveyor belting does not satisfactorily withstand the action of such hot material.

While this belt is still somewhat in the experimental stage, four of them have been sold for practical use, one having been in use for eight months, and up to date they are all giving satisfactory results.

The belt is made in two types—one manufactured from solid woven belting and termed the heavy duty belt, and the other made up from layers of asbestos cloth for light duty. Three out of the four belts sold are of the light duty type, and this is mainly because of the obvious difficulty of being able to cater to a demand for any width when manufactured from solid woven asbestos belting.

Recently T. G. Bedwell, Joint Managing Director of the company, had an opportunity to inspect one of these belts which had been used in a cement works. The conditions under which the belt was used are described as follows:

Centers 140 feet

Diam. of driving pulley 2 ft. 6 in.

Diam. of tail pulley 1 ft. 6 in.

Speed 250 ft. per minute

Load 40 tons per hour

Working time 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

Total length of time belt was in operation—26 weeks.

In effect, therefore, the belt conveyed 174,720 tons of hot clinker in six months and inspection shows it to have stood up very well. In places the belt has torn, due either to a large lump of red hot clinker falling on it or to "blistering" from the rubber underneath the asbestos surface. The belt used was the cloth type (light duty) which has two plies of cloth vulcanized together with rubber, and it was the rubber between the two plies which has been the source of the trouble from "blistering". It

ASBESTOS

is evident that the Heavy Duty type would stand up much better on this particular job. On the other hand the light duty type would work admirably in certain places, for instance, where hot sand is conveyed. This would never come on to the belt red hot and there is therefore no serious danger of the tearing action.

While the manufacturers realize that the market for this type of belt is definitely limited, undoubtedly there are a number of uses for it where the materials conveyed are too hot for the ordinary type of conveyor belting. The opinion of American manufacturers is desired as to the probable demand for such a belt in the United States. Samples of both types can be examined in the office of "ASBESTOS", or obtained by addressing the manufacturers.

Abel M. Hamblet

Abel M. Hamblet, whose death was announced in our June number, was Research Director of Johns-Manville Corporation and in full charge of all research activities undertaken by that company.

Prior to Mr. Hamblet's directorship research had been conducted independently at each of the several J-M factories with no centralized program or supervision. Mr. Hamblet centralized all research activities at Manville, N. J., and planned and programmed both for present requirements and for five years of future needs.

He was the first chemist in the United States successfully to make U. S. P. Lactic Acid.

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ASBESTOS



Imports into U. S. A.

Unmanufactured Asbestos.

	June 1930		June 1931	
	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value
Africa (Br. S.)	264	\$ 17,876	.....	.....
Africa (Port. E.)	33	9,013	190	35,823
Canada	15,807	532,196	9,483	265,152
China .....	.....	.....	1	280
France	1	267	.....	.....
Germany	23	2,743	.....	.....
Italy	1	516	3	1,102
United Kingdom	87	36,839	79	18,862
	16,216	\$ 599,450	9,756	\$321,219

Tabulation of Crudes and Fibres.

All above is Crude except Canada which is divided as follows:

Crude (Canada)	174	50,085	24	5,611
Mill Fibre (Canada)	6,427	336,374	3,219	164,459
Lower Grades (Canada)	9,206	145,737	6,240	95,082
	15,807	\$532,196	9,483	\$265,152

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	June 1930		June 1931	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
<i>Yarn—</i>				
Germany	5,603	2,794	1,474	940
United Kingdom	505	273	1,006	541
<i>Fabrics, Woven—</i>				
Germany	1,739	1,263	.....	.....
United Kingdom	1,398	1,752	.....	.....
<i>Packing, Fabric—</i>				
United Kingdom	997	951	1,747	1,422
<i>Packing, not Fabric—</i>				
Austria .....	.....	.....	452	642
Canada	20	15	.....	.....
Germany	2,481	1,986	1,405	424
Hungary	560	187	.....	.....
Japan	36	70	.....	.....
United Kingdom	14,695	8,800	4,405	1,338
<i>Shingles, and Slates of Asbestos Cement—</i>				
Belgium	155,455	2,145
<i>Lumber of Asbestos Cement—</i>				
France	660	40

August 1931

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ASBESTOS

	June 1930		June 1931	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
<i>Brake and Clutch Lining, Woven—</i>				
Germany			300	193
<i>Pipe Covering and Asbestos Cement—</i>				
France			851	76
United Kingdom			27,054	3,410
Canada			350	31
<i>Articles in part of Asbestos, Impregnated, decorated, etc.—</i>				
Canada			40,205	1,483
France			5,873	194
<i>Articles in part of Asbestos, Not impregnated, decorated, etc.—</i>				
France			1,213	35
Italy			1,693	75
<i>Other Manufactures—</i>				
Belgium	19,960	2,277		
Canada	120	21		
Germany	22	14		
United Kingdom	29	54		
	204,280	\$22,642	88,028	\$10,804

Exports from U. S. A.

During May¹ 1931, 213 tons of *Unmanufactured Asbestos*, valued at \$17,028; 5 tons, valued at \$606 were exported during May 1930.

Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	May 1930		May 1931	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
Paper, Mlbd. and Rlbd.	83,115	8,792	43,662	3,114
Pipe Covg. and Cement	456,219	26,772	125,345	12,834
Textiles, Yarn and Pkg.	196,317	91,669	92,108	47,941
Brake and Clutch Lining ² ..	787,027	148,872		
Molded and Semi-Molded				37,182
Not Molded ²			626,295	113,005
Asbestos Roofing ³	4,406	36,394	2,360	14,090
Magnesia and Mfrs. of	558,667	36,373	184,683	13,311
Other Asb. Mfrs.	475,094	45,073	225,169	24,492

¹ Exports one mo. behind Imports. ² Lin. feet. ³ Squares.

Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada.

	June 1930		June 1931	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
	(2000 lbs.)		(2000 lbs.)	
United Kingdom	383	\$ 26,552	251	\$ 13,635
United States	6,857	363,240	3,621	184,884
Australia			50	3,500
Belgium	1,629	127,790	600	31,084
France	714	54,660	285	20,815

ASBESTOS

CYPRUS ASBESTOS

A true Chrysotile fibre of great tensile strength, exceptionally clean and well graded, suitable for the manufacture of—

Asbestos-cement pipes, sheets and shingles
Asbestos millboard
Moulded brake lining
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BECKER & HAAG

RAW ASBESTOS

STOCKS
OF ALL GRADES
HAMBURG
ROTTERDAM

BERLIN S W 11
BERNBURGERSTR 31

Cable Address
Canada - Berlin

A S B E S T O S

Germany	265	19,525	392	40,540
Italy	265	21,900	220	16,395
Japan	685	39,863	692	34,198
Netherlands	99	6,575

	10,798	\$ 653,530	6,210	\$351,626
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Sand and Waste—

United Kingdom	30	625	125	2,865
United States	9,191	139,677	6,853	96,102
Belgium	90	2,250	30	450
France	60	1,500	70	1,700
Germany	230	5,390	90	1,965
Italy	72	1,800	.....	.....
Japan	5	125	.....	.....
Netherlands .....	.....	.....	103	2,835

	9,678	151,367	7,271	105,917
	20,476	\$ 804,897	13,481	\$ 457,543

Imports and Exports by England.

Some of our readers have asked for a further division of imports of raw material by England as to countries, and we have succeeded in obtaining such a tabulation for the year 1930. It is given below.

	Year 1930			
	Asbestos Raw and Fibre		Asbestos Waste	
	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value	incl. Asbestic Tons Value (2240 lbs.)	
Africa (Union of South) ..	6,787	£ 198,535	.....	.....
Africa (Bachuanaland)	341	15,213	.....	.....
Africa (Northern Rhodesia)	207	5,340	.....	.....
Africa (Southern Rhodesia)	9,045	349,616	.....	.....
Australia	178	6,317	.....	.....
Belgium	48	1,798	.....	.....
British India	31	799	.....	.....
Canada	3,636	70,895	1,908	£ 14,531
Cyprus	1,400	33,764	.....	.....
Finland	116	1,217	.....	.....
France	1	65	.....	.....
Germany	82	4,328	5	40
Italy	127	4,598	37	280
Netherlands	16	689	.....	.....
Soviet Union (Russia)	577	13,740
United States of America	66	1,784	579	3,792

	22,658	£ 708,698	2,529	£ 18,643
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We have also arranged to supply the monthly figures in this manner, beginning with June, as given on the following page.

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Imports of Raw Material by England.

	June 1930		June 1931	
	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value
Africa (Rhodesia)	643	£ 20,841	336	£ 8,172
Canada	141	4,179	435	5,080
Africa (Union of South) ..	.....	.....	323	4,147
Africa (Port. E.) .....	.....	.....	34	850
Australia .....	.....	.....	22	230
Austria .....	.....	.....	10	62
Cyprus	858	24,206	45	1,075
Germany .....	.....	.....	3	52
Italy .....	.....	.....	15	304
United States of America ..	.....	.....	131	2,818
	1,642	49,226	1,354	£ 22,790
Re-Shipments	39	£ 1,669		

Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

To Netherlands	61	£ 3,949	22	£ 1,948
To France	90	9,126	19	3,211
To United States of America...	5	1,655	1	419
To British India	498	12,013	230	7,896
To Australia	26	4,902	6	1,858
To Other Countries	1,396	68,348	1,467	49,576
	2,076	£99,993	1,745	£64,908

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

(Figures supplied thru the courtesy of Edward G. Wyckoff & Co., 1528 Walnut St., Philadelphia.)

	July 1931				
	Par	Div.	High	Low	Last
Asb. Corp. (Com.)	np	—	.30	.20	.30
Asb. Corp. (Pfd.)	100	7	.15	.25	.50
Carey (Com.)	100	8	No Sales		
Carey (Pfd.)	100	6	110½	109¾	110
Certainteed (Com.)	np	—	6¼	4¾	5¾
Certainteed (Pfd.)	100	7	29*	24¾*	
Garlock Packing (Com.)	np	—	84	84	84
Garlock Pkg. (6s Deb. 1939)	100	6	14¾	13¾	14½
Johns-Manville (Com.)	np	3	61	48¼	51¾
Johns-Manville (Pfd.)	100	7	141	117	120½
Raybestos-Manhattan Inc. (Com.) np	—	—	22½	19¼	19¼
Ruberoid (Com.)	np	4	38	35¾	35¾
Thermoid (Com.)	np	—	3¾	4¾	4¾
Thermoid (Pfd.)	100	7	No Sales		
Thermoid (6s 1934)	100	6	59	50	59

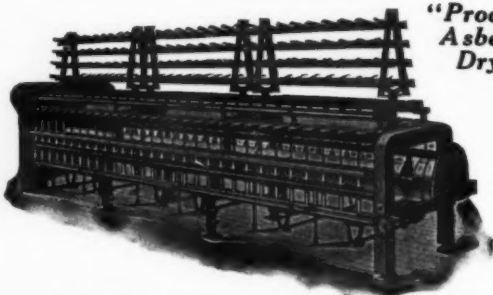
* Quotation—No sales.

ASBESTOS

ASBESTOS YARN MACHINERY

"Smith-Furbush"

"Proctor"
Asbestos
Dryers



PROCTOR & SCHWARTZ, INC.

Formerly Smith & Furbush Machine Co.
Seventh St. & Tabor Rd., Philadelphia, Pa.

High-Grade Asbestos Textiles

CARDED FIBRES
YARNS. CORD, MANTLE YARNS
PLAIN AND METALLIC CLOTHS
BRAIDED AND WOVEN TAPES
BRAIDED TUBINGS
WOVEN SHEET PACKINGS
WOVEN BRAKE LININGS
GLOVES, MITTENS, LEGGINS
GASKETS, SEAMLESS AND JOINTED
PACKINGS, STEM AND HIGH PRESSURE
WICK AND ROPE

ASBESTOS FIBRE SPINNING COMPANY

NORTH WALES, — PENNA.

ASBESTOS

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

Birthdays. Our birthday list this month contains the following names: C. H. Carlough, President, Carolina Asbestos Company, Davidson, N. C., August 20th; F. P. Kuchenbecker, President, Asbestos & Magnesia Materials Company, Chicago, Ill., August 23rd; J. Gillmur Tyson, President, American Asbestos Co., August 25th; Harrison S. Sweet, Manager, Oneida Plant, Mohawk Asbestos Slate Co., Oneida, N. Y., August 28th; C. M. Clarke, President, Sall Mountain Co., Chicago, Ill., September 3rd; E. Schaaf-Regelman, President, Regal Asbestos Mines, 220 Broadway, New York City, September 11th; B. Marcuse, President, Canadian Asbestos Company, Montreal, P. Q., Canada, September 11th. Congratulations and best wishes to all these gentlemen.

The Paxall Co., Inc. E. P. Watrous, former General Sales Manager of the Crandall Packing Company, is now Sales Manager of the Paxall Co., Inc., Cranford, N. J., Packing Installation Engineers and manufacturers of Ace-O-Pax.

Multibestos Company announce the addition to their sales force of E. H. McGraw, who will be stationed in the Eastern Pennsylvania territory. Mr. McGraw has had a wide experience in the automotive industry, having been jobber's salesman for the Queen Auto Supply Company of Philadelphia, purchasing agent for the same company, special representative for the Oakland Motor Car Company of Philadelphia, specialty salesman for the Consolidated Equipment Corporation of the same city, and later for the Roberts Electric Company. Mr. McGraw has the backing of the Multibestos Brake Service Institute at United Motors Service, 1624 Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia, which enables him to offer to his trade a headquarters for practical assistance and training in all matters pertaining to brake servicing.

Richard S. Platt, with headquarters at First Trust Company Building, Albany, N. Y., has just been appointed approved contractor and distributor for the Keasbey & Mattison Company in Albany, N. Y., and surrounding territory, consisting of approximately twenty counties.

Mr. Platt has had a total of fifteen years in the asbestos business. He was with Robert A. Keasbey Company for five years, including two years as Foreman and Superintendent of their contract department, Salesman and Manager of the Connecticut territory and office. For the last eight years he has been with the Keasbey & Mattison Company as estimator, salesman and manager of the Albany Office successively.

Previous to his connection with the asbestos industry he had

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four years experience in engineering and construction work including buildings, bridges, tunnels, etc., one year in industrial plant and engineer in charge for contractor on New York side of the two mile rock tunnel and clay blanket over East River.

Mr. Platt brings to his new work much enthusiasm and his friends wish him the best of success.

The Thermoid Company of Trenton, N. J., and wholly owned subsidiaries report sales for the second quarter, ending June 30, 1931, as showing an increase of 65 per cent over the first quarter. Mr. R. J. Stokes, president, says that "Net operating profits after depreciation, available for interest and dividends, amounted to \$13,768 for the month of April and \$45,333 for the month of May. These figures compare with a loss for the first quarter. Final figures for June are not yet available but we believe that profits for that month will make a satisfactory showing. Sales for Southern Asbestos Company, a 95 per cent owned subsidiary for the second quarter this year were 40 per cent greater than the first quarter. The net profits of this subsidiary for the month of May alone amounted to \$7,888, which more than eliminates the loss which Southern Asbestos showed for the first quarter."

The Thermoid Rubber Company of Trenton, N. J., announce the addition of Asbestos Wicking to their line of automotive products. Thermoid Asbestos Wicking is constructed of numerous small Asbestos threads, firmly twisted into a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. wicking. The automotive repair shop will find an everyday use for this wicking in packing exhaust manifolds and muffler joints.

The Asbestos Cement Works at Lubudi in the Belgian Congo has closed down for six months, owing to the falling off in demand for asbestos cement goods in the Belgian Congo and Northern Rhodesia.

The Ric-wiL Company of Cleveland, Ohio, manufacturers of Ric-wiL Conduit, has just issued a new folder, C-3101. This folder contains a set of new Ric-wiL Installation Photographs showing, step by step, the operations involved in a Ric-wiL installation, and the photographs are accompanied by text which clearly outlines the various operations on a typical Ric-wiL Installation. The folder is really a pocket size catalog of Ric-wiL Conduit Systems.

Roux-Shiedly Asbestos Quarries, with main offices at Kansas City, Mo., recently announced an investment in machinery and equipment of \$75,000 and the intention of operating the company's Alaskan asbestos mine on increased scale this summer. A railroad will be built from Bear Creek to the mine.

The Russell Manufacturing Company of Middletown Conn., announce their new Rusco Kontak Service Package. This package will handle the brake lining replacements for approximately 90% of all passenger cars equipped with internal brakes. Rusco Kontak is a semi-moulded lining in rolls and is designed to meet the demands of garages, brake shops and service stations, for a lining that can be easily and quickly applied. The box

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contains four 21-foot rolls of brake lining of such sizes as will meet the requirements of all but ten per cent of American passenger cars.

The Standard Tire Sales Company, Inc., of Springfield, Mass., has been appointed as an authorized Rusco brake service station; the Manhattan Auto Parts & Machine Shop, Inc., 645 First Avenue, New York City, has been appointed a jobber on the complete Rusco line, and Illinois Battery & Electric Company of Quincy, Ill., and Sherik Parts & Service Company of Burlington, Ia., have been appointed distributors.

R. O. Vixtrum, of Los Angeles, Calif., has been added to the sales force of the Russell Manufacturing Company. He will cover the Los Angeles beach district.

A. F. Dundon of Troy, N. Y., has been appointed territorial representative and will cover the Albany territory.

The Russell Mfg. Company of Middletown, Conn., announces the resignation of H. D. Felt as manager of its New York division and the appointment of H. L. Wallbrecht to succeed him. Mr. Felt has held the New York post for four years and is resigning to join the sales force in another capacity. Mr. Wallbrecht has been assistant division manager for the past five years, two years on the Pacific Coast and three years in the Southwest Division.

C. H. Casselberry of Philadelphia and B. S. Wheeler, of Elkins Park Pa., have been appointed members of the Rusco sales force covering the Philadelphia territory. Mr. Casselberry was previously with the Auto Gear and Parts Company and the Johns-Manville Sales Corporation, both of Philadelphia. Mr. Wheeler served for many years with Willson Goggles, Inc., Reading, Pa., and with David Lupton's Sons Co., Philadelphia.

The Northwestern Machine & Welding Co., Butte, Mont., has been appointed as new outlet for the entire Rusco line. New distributors for Rusco materials are Scurry & Nizon, Greenville, S. C., Noel's Auto Electric Service, Jackson, Miss., Valdosta Auto Parts Co., Valdosta, Ga., Campbell's Service & Sales, Middletown Turnpike West, Manchester, Conn., Cambridge Tire Exchange, 325 Prospect St., Cambridge, Mass., Weir's Wheel Works, Inc., Blandina St., Utica, N. Y.

Victor Manufacturing & Gasket Co. of 5750 Roosevelt Road, Chicago, Ill., has recently published a new Catalog H, which is of special interest to engineers and purchasing agents.

It comprises a handy reference manual containing nearly 100 pages of new and authentic data concerning gaskets, gasket materials and packings for industrial and commercial uses. The information is based on the company's experience of more than 22 years of specialization in gasket design and manufacture. Copy of this manual may be obtained upon request.

Amianthus Asbestos Mine, Africa. The Johannesburg "Star" of May 28th reported that the Amianthus Asbestos Mine (controlled by Turner & Newall) which at the end of January re-

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trenched from three shifts daily to two shifts would on June 1, re-trench to one shift only. European and native employees to be discharged accordingly.

Garlock Packing Company, and subsidiaries, for the six months ended June 30th, reported a net profit of \$125,338, after interest and Federal Taxes. This is equivalent to 62c per share on 201,645 no par shares of capital stock outstanding, and compares with -300,330, or \$1.49 per share in the first half of 1930.

Multibestos Company has added two men to its Chicago sales staff. Clarence F. Boothe is connected with the Chicago Multibestos Brake Service Institute and is available to all members of the trade for practical aid and training on all phases of brake servicing. He was formerly associated with the Wagner Electric Corporation as shop superintendent. C. L. Swander has been appointed sales representative in the Chicago territory. He was formerly connected with the John Bean Manufacturing Company, makers of brake testing equipment.

James Hardie & Co., Ltd., of Sydney, Australia. It is reported that the asbestos cement pipes made by this company are being increasingly used in Australia, having been installed by the Colonial Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., Fiji; the Taronga Zoological Park Trust, Sydney (salt water); the Kandos Cement Company, Kandos, N. S. W., the N. S. W. Government Railways Department; the N. S. W. Public Works Department; the Water Supply Metropolitan Board of Works, Melbourne; the Hunter District Water Supply & Sewerage Board, Newcastle, and by several collieries in New South Wales. The trade name adopted by the company for their pipe products is Fibrolite.

Asbestos Corporation Limited. First mortgage bondholders of Asbestos Corporation, Limited, the holding company for Asbestos Corporation of Canada, Limited, are asked, in a letter over the signature of Colonel R. F. Massie, President, "to accept the interpretation of the corporation that bonds deposited with the trust company for sinking fund purposes have ceased to be a liability and that interest is not payable thereon."

This move, the letter states, is in order to utilize the corporation's available cash resources to carry thru development work essential to the opening up of new high-grade ore bodies which will enable the corporation to meet world competition.

In an alternative to this proposal the letter suggests the bondholders approve postponement until January 1, 1933, or otherwise as may be decided at a meeting to be held on August 21, the payment of interest on these bonds ordinarily due on July 1, 1932, and secondly that a similar action be taken in connection with the sinking fund payment due January 1, 1932.

L. H. Butcher Company, 274 Brannan St., San Francisco, Cal., has recently been appointed to represent the Asbestos Corporation Limited on the Pacific Coast.

R. Rex White 6489 Ross St., Philadelphia Pa., has been employed as a sales representative by Asbestos Corporation Limited. His territory will be the Philadelphia district.

ASBESTOS

Johns-Manville Corporation. Net profit for the second quarter was \$715,657, of 78c a share. The net profit for the same period in 1930 was \$998,529, or \$1.16 a share. Compare it, however, with the first quarter of 1931, which was \$230,109, or 13c a share. These profits are figured, of course, after expenses, federal taxes, etc., and dividend requirements on the 7% preferred.

PATENTS

Brake Testing Machine. No. 1,801,927. Granted on April 21st to Harold W. Langbein, Los Angeles, Cal. Assignor to Brake Synchronometer Co., Boston, Mass. Filed Dec. 5, 1925. Serial No. 73,476. Description upon request.

Laminated Insulating Structure. No. 1,804,043. Granted on May 5th, to John F. Whittlesey, Newton, Mass. Filed December 28, 1929. Serial No. 417,814.

Described as an insulating laminated structure comprising in combination two outer sheets, each comprising a body of Asbestos and hydraulic cement, a core between said sheets, said core comprising a central sheet of fibrous material of high dielectric strength, and having no definite grain, two sheets of fibrous cement material on opposite sides respectively of said central sheets and layers of waterproof adhesive material uniting said two sheets with said central sheets, and layers of waterproof adhesive material uniting said core with said outer sheets.

Gasket. No. 1,804,574. Granted on May 12th to John H. Victor, Chicago, Ill. Assignor to Victor Mfg. & Gasket Co. Filed August 11, 1927. Serial No. 212,205. Description upon request.

Waterproof and Dielectric Asbestos Lumber. No. 1,804,740. Granted on May 12th, to Edward J. Buczkowski, Ambler, Pa., Assignor to Ambler Asbestos Shingle & Sheathing Company. Filed February 5th, 1930. Serial No. 426,193.

Described as a waterproof and insulating slag composed of asphalt, the asphalt being introduced prior to the formation of the slab.

Heat Insulating Hand Grip. No. 1,806,479. Granted on May 19th, to George O. Lory, Los Angeles, Calif. Assignor to O. J. Lafayette Mfg. Co. Filed June 25, 1930.

Described as an article of manufacture comprising a hot liquid dispensing ceramic container, a hand grip surrounding the same, and consisting of a layer of cork in close contact with the ceramic surface, asbestos arranged on the layer of cork and a layer of binding material around said cork and asbestos.

Packing. No. 1,809,407. Granted on June 9th, to Edgar N. Fox, Palmyra, N. Y. Assignor to Garlock Packing Company, Palmyra, N. Y. Filed May 15, 1922. Serial No. 561,139.

Described as an annular piston rod packing, comprising a circular, segmental ring of semi-rigid material, shaped in cross section having a cylindrical inner working base, an outer cylindrical bearing base and inner, outer and lateral recesses bounded by conical surfaces.

ASBESTOS

THIS AND THAT

Celotex Cemesto Board mentioned in a recent issue is also sold by The Ruberoid Company under the name of Eternit-Celotex Board. The celotex board is plated with the asbestos cement surface at the Eternit plant in St. Louis.

The Ric-wiL Company, Cleveland, Ohio, manufacturer of Ric-wiL Conduit Systems for Underground Steam Pipes, has recently purchased the Standard Underground Conduit Company of Atlanta, Ga. All information relative to Standard Underground Conduit may now be obtained from the Ric-wiL Company, Union Trust Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.

About the only thing a man can run into while standing still is debt.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa, Canada, has just published its "Manufactures of the Non-Metallic Minerals in Canada" for 1928 and 1929.

The fellow who can't stand the long pull to the top of the hill never finds out about the good road on the other side. *Rays of Sunshine.*

An asbestos clutch facing 154 in. (almost 13 ft.) in diameter, and with a 12 in. face, has been made by the Manhattan Rubber Mfg. Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. It, with three others of similar size are to be used on a mine-hoist clutch specially designed by a large Southern company. We believe this is the largest asbestos friction clutch facing in the world.

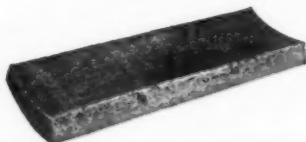
The Connecticut Abestos Company is reported to have been organized to resume mining operations at an abandoned asbestos mine near the Nepaug Reservoir in Hartford, Conn. Will our Hartford friends find out all they can about this company, its operations and especially the asbestos found in this deposit, and let us have it for publication. Samples of the asbestos would also be appreciated.



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VERMONT ASBESTOS FIBRE

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Its chemical and physical characteristics make
Vermont Fibre particularly adapted
to the better grades of

ASBESTOS

SHINGLES - CORRUGATED SHEETS

LUMBER - PAPER

MILL BOARD - CLUTCH FACING

MOULDED BRAKE LINING

ROOF COATINGS - FIBROUS PAINT

PLASTICS - MOULDED PRODUCTS

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